



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: :
Wang et al. :
Application No. 09/788,294 : Art Unit: 1754
Filed: Feb.16, 2001 : Examiner: M. Medina Sanabria
For: REFORMING CATALYSTS AND : Atty Docket: 12722B
METHODS OF ALCOHOL :
STEAM REFORMING :

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §§ 1.56 and 1.97-1.99, the documents listed on the attached Form(s) PTO-1449 are being brought to the attention of the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application. Because no Action On The Merits has been received, it is believed that no fees are due; however, if any fees are required for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement, please charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1749.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to initial the space adjacent each document entry on the Form(s) PTO-1449, and to return a copy of the initialled Form(s) PTO-1449 to confirm that the documents have been considered and have been officially made of record in this application.

RESPONSE

In response to the Restriction Requirement, Applicants elect group I claim 1, with traverse with respect to groups III and IV. Applicants admit that these groups are patentably distinct; however, the inventions are all related as they all are methods of alcohol steam reforming and each method uses a catalyst that comprises Pd. The restriction is further improper since the examination of these 3 groups would not present any additional burden. Indeed, the Examiner has indicated that all three groups are classified in class 423, subclass 648.1.

If the Examiner has any questions or would like to speak to Applicants' representative, the Examiner is encouraged to call Applicants' attorney at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

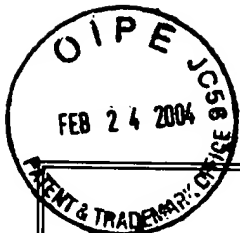
Date: 20 Feb 2004

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Form PTO-1449

Information Disclosure Citation

Attorney Docket
12722BApplication No.
09/788,294Applicant
Wang et al.Filing Date
Feb 16, 2001Group Art Unit
1754

U.S. Patent Documents

Examiner Initial		Patent Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub-Class	Filing Date
	AA	6,616,909	2003	Tonkovich et al.	423	648.1	1/27/2000
	AB	6,488,838	2002	Tonkovich et al.	208	108	8/17/1999
	AC	6,479,428	2002	Tonkovich et al.	502	302	7/27/1998
	AD	6,440,895	2002	Tonkovich et al.	502	439	1/27/2000
	AE	6,436,363	2002	Hwang et al.	423	651	8/31/00
	AF	6,413,449	2002	Wieland et al.	252	373	10/7/1999
	AG	6,254,807	2001	Schmidt et al.	252	373	1/12/1998
	AH	2001/0021469A1	9/13/2001	Kaneko et al.			12/14/2000
	AI	2001/0016188A1	8/23/2001	Haga et al.			12/13/2000
	AJ	5,639,401	1997	Jacobs et al.	252	373	
	AK	5,510,056	1996	Jacobs et al.	252	373	
	AL	4,511,673	1985	Eto	502	525	

Foreign Patent Documents

		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub-Class	Translation
	AM	EP 1063011A1	12/27/2000	Europe	B01J	23/60	No
	AN	EP 1061011A1	12/27/2000	Europe	B01J	23/60	Yes
	AO	EP 0278749	1988	Europe	B01J	21/14	
	AP	GB 1366367	1974	Great Britain	B01J	11/06	
	AQ	JP 60082137	1985	Japan	B01J	23/60	Abstract

Other Documents (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

AR	PCT Search Report, mailed Oct 4, 2002, PCT/US 02/04527
AS	Cubeiro et al., "Partial oxidation of methanol over supported Palladium catalysts," Appl. Catal., A: General 168, 307-322 (1998).
AT	Iwasa et al., "Steam reforming of methanol over Pd/ZnO: Effect of the formation of PdZn alloys upon the reaction," Appl. Catal., A: General 125, 145-157 (1995).

Examiner

Date Considered

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.